

## ***FWP COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET***

**Meeting Date:** December 9, 2010

**Division:** Management and Finance

**Agenda Item:** 2011 Proposed Annual Rule for sale of Nonresident Combination Licenses

**Action Needed:** Final Approval

**Time Needed:** 15 minutes

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**Background—** With the passage of Initiative 161 on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, changes to many sections of Title 87 of the Montana Codes Annotated will impact FWP's Annual Rule for the sale of Nonresident Combination Licenses. The Initiative abolishes the Nonresident Variable Priced Outfitter Sponsored licenses, moves their quota to the General drawing category, and increases the General Nonresident Combination license fees. Since this will become law on March 1, 2011, the Commission has no action to take on these issues.

The Commission has the authority to set the fee for the B-10 Elk Combination license. In the past, the B-10 Elk Combination license fee was set \$50 less than the B-10 General Big Game Combination license; the B-10 Outfitter Sponsored Elk Combination license was usually set at \$100 less than the B-10 Outfitter Sponsored Big Game Combination licenses.

**Public Involvement Process & Results—** As of November 30<sup>th</sup>, 17 comments were received concerning the B-10 elk Combination license fee and 46 comments were received concerning the fees set by I 161. Since the public comment period will end on December 3, 2010, any additional comments received will be provided to the Commission before the meeting.

**Alternatives and Analysis-** Since the fees for Nonresident Combination license have increased, and in order to keep a consistent margin between the B-10 Elk Combination license and the Big Game Combination license, FWP recommends a \$100 differential between the two license types. The proposed Annual Rule reflects a B-10 Elk Combination license fee of \$812.

**Agency Recommendation & Rationale—**Adopt the proposed Final Annual Rule.

**Proposed Motion—** Move to adopt the 2011 Annual Rule for the Sale of Nonresident Combination Licenses as proposed.